

and other places, as well as several objects of natural history, including the white Gallinule (*Fulica alba*) of Lord Howe's Island. One of these drawings represents "Port Hunter," Duke-of-York Island, and, no doubt, gives a fair idea of the island as it then existed.

"Several of the French expeditions visited these islands. De Bougainville<sup>1</sup> in 1768, the year after Carteret's discoveries, spent some days at the southern end of New Ireland, and named the small cove at the eastern end of Gowan's Harbour 'Port Praslin.' This spot was afterwards visited by Duperrey in the 'Coquille' in 1823; and here the only entomological collections which have hitherto reached Europe from this island were made. These were described in the Zoology of the Voyage of the 'Coquille' by Guérin-Ménéville; and several of the butterflies are figured in the atlas of that work.

"The different explorers who have visited these islands seem to have been variously impressed with them, according, perhaps, to the season of the year when they were there. All, however, extol the richness of the verdure, the extent of the forests, as well as the grandeur of the scenery of both New Britain and New Ireland; but the climate is very humid, and the rainfall at times excessive."

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The following papers were read:—

1. On the Birds collected by Mr. George Brown, C.M.Z.S., on Duke-of-York Island, and on the adjoining parts of New Ireland and New Britain. By P. L. SCLATER, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S., Secretary to the Society.

[Received February 19, 1877.]

(Plates XIV.–XVI.)

I am now in a position to give the Society a better account of the collection of Birds made by our Corresponding Member, Mr. George Brown, in Duke-of-York Island and on the adjacent portions of New Ireland and New Britain, which I exhibited at our second meeting in January last<sup>2</sup>. Before, however, I do this, I will make a few preliminary remarks, to serve as an introduction to this and the papers to follow, which some of my friends have been kind enough to prepare, on other branches of Mr. Brown's collections.

For my first introduction to Mr. Brown, I am indebted to Dr. F. Müller, the well-known botanist, of Melbournè, who wrote to me in 1874 pointing out Mr. Brown's enthusiastic love for natural history, and recommending his election as a Corresponding Member of the Society. Mr. Brown was at that time attached to the Wesleyan Mission in the Samoan group, but shortly afterwards returned to Sydney, and was sent out as the leader of a new Wesleyan Mission at Port Hunter, Duke-of-York Island. Mr. Brown left Sydney in

<sup>1</sup> 'A Voyage round the World,' by Lewis de Bougainville, translated by John Reinhold Forster. 4to: London, 1773.

<sup>2</sup> See above, p. 28.



J. Smut del. & lith.

M&N Hanhart imp

Fig 1. MONARCHA VERTICALIS.  
2. DICŒUM EXIMIUM.





$\frac{4}{5}$

Smith del.

M&N Hanhart imp.

ARTAMUS INSIGNIS.





J. Smit lith

PHLOGÆNAS JOHANNÆ

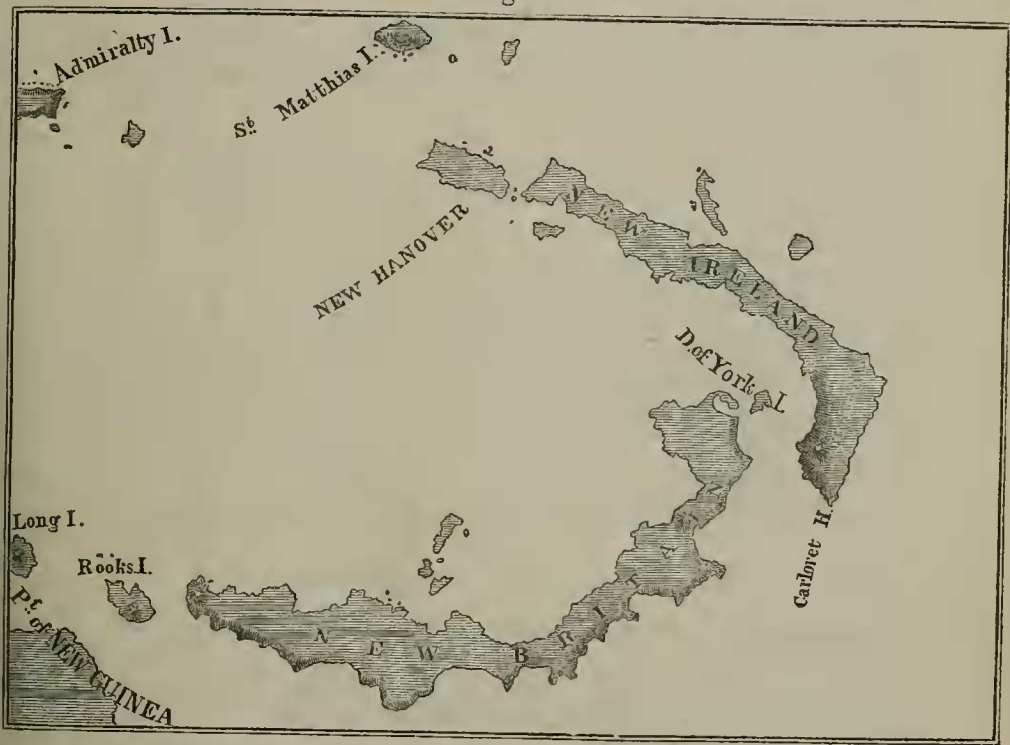
M & N Hannart del





April 1875 in the 'John Wesley,' and, after a visit to several mission-stations, arrived at Port Hunter in the August following. Here he at once proceeded to collect living specimens for the Society, and in September 1875 wrote to me announcing the dispatch to Sydney<sup>1</sup> of a number of birds, of which, I regret to say, only the Cassowaries eventually reached us alive<sup>2</sup>. In replying to Mr. Brown, I took the opportunity of pointing out to him the very interesting nature of the locality in which he was resident, and of assuring him that I would do my best to see that any zoological specimens that he might be able to collect there were properly worked out, and that due credit was given to him.

Fig. 1.



Outline Map of Duke-of-York Island, New Britain, and New Ireland, from the Admiralty Chart.

Mr. Brown returned to Sydney in October last, bringing with him the collection which we have before us this evening, in making which he had, I believe, the assistance of Mr. Cockerell, a young Australian naturalist and collector. Mr. Brown's letters, however, do not contain details upon the manner, nor, I regret to say in many cases, upon the exact localities in which his specimens were obtained; but I gather

<sup>1</sup> See extract from his letter, P. Z. S. 1875, p. 2.

<sup>2</sup> See P. Z. S. 1876, p. 413, where these birds are determined as *Casuarus bennetti*. But until these birds are adult this determination must be considered provisional only.



from his correspondence, and from notices in several newspapers and journals<sup>1</sup>, that Mr. Brown's head quarters during the year which he passed in this district were Port Hunter, Duke-of-York Island, where is the Wesleyan Church and Mission, and that frequent excursions were made thence to the adjoining large islands of New Britain and New Ireland. Writing on February 4th, 1876, he speaks of having been seven times over to New Ireland in three months, and of there being missionary stations at Nodup and Matupi in New Britain, both occupied by native teachers. It may be assumed, therefore, that Mr. Brown's collections were formed on those parts of the islands of New Britain and New Ireland which are nearest to Duke-of-York Island<sup>2</sup>, as shown in the accompanying outline chart (p. 97).

The collection of birds which Mr. Brown has transmitted to me for determination consists of 89 skins, belonging to 70 species, of which 10 appear to be new to science, as shown in the subjoined Table.

	Skins.	Species.	New to Science.
I. Passeres.....	25	20	5
II. Coccyges .....	16	13	1
III. Psittaci .....	10	8	1
IV. Striges .....	1	1	1
V. Accipitres .....	5	4	
VI. Herodiones .....	3	2	
VII. Columbæ .....	20	13	2
VIII. Gallinæ .....	1	1	
IX. Fulicariæ .....	1	1	
X. Limicolæ .....	5	5	
XI. Gaviæ.....	2	2	
	89	70	10

The following is a detailed account of them<sup>3</sup>:—

1. *CISTICOLA RUFICEPS*, Gould, B. Austr. iii. pl. 45 (?).

Apparently a worn specimen of this species, which Mr. Sharpe

<sup>1</sup> See Wesleyan Missionary Notices for Feb. 1876, p. 28, and Jan. 1877, p. 17.

<sup>2</sup> Since this paper was read I find that Mr. Brown has sent a communication to the Royal Geographical Society on his expedition to Duke-of-York Island. It appears from this memoir (which, through Mr. Bates's kindness, I have had the opportunity of reading in MS.) that Duke-of-York Island is not, as is marked on the chart, one island, but a group of twelve islands, of which seven are inhabited. Mr. Brown states that he examined about 130 miles of the coast of New Ireland, from Cape Bougainville northward, and crossed the island from west to east, at a point N.N.E. of Duke-of-York Island. On New Britain Mr. Brown examined the coast from Cape Orford and Spacious Bay to Cape Palliser on the west, and thence round Blanche Bay, and as far as Port Weber at the head of a deep bay about 20 miles east of Cape Lambert. The collections sent were therefore, we may presume, all made within these limits.—P. L. S.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. Salvadori, to whom I transmitted Mr. Brown's collection for examination, has most kindly furnished me with some notes on the specimens, of which, at his request, I have not hesitated to make use.

tells me occurred also in Mr. Stone's collection from the south of New Guinea. The exact locality is not given.

## 2. PITTA MACKLOTI, Müll. & Schl.

One example, New Britain, Feb. 1876.

I was at first inclined to separate this *Pitta* from *P. mackloti*, on account of its having a blue line on the crown, as in *P. celebensis*; but Prof. Salvadori assures me that "some specimens from Batanta, Waigiu, and Andai have this mark equally conspicuous." The occurrence of a *Pitta* in New Britain is a fact of great interest.

## 3. SAULOPROCTA MELALEUCA (Quoy et Gaim.).

*Muscipeta melaleuca*, Quoy et Gaim. Voy. de l'Astrol. i. p. 180, t. 4. f. 3.

*Sauloprocta melanoleuca*, Cab. Mus. Ornith. Hein. p. 57.

*Sauloprocta melaleuca*, Schl. P. Z. S. 1869, p. 119.

*Sauloprocta tricolor*, Salvad. et D'Alb. Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen. vii. p. 23.

The locality of Mr. Brown's specimen is not marked; but the species was first obtained in New Ireland. It is also found in the Solomon Islands and New Guinea. Whether *Muscipeta tricolor*, Vieillot, ex Timor (*Maugé*), is identical must remain uncertain until specimens from that island have been compared. Wallace does not include the species in his Birds of Timor (P. Z. S. 1863, p. 485).

## 4. RHIPIDURA SETOSA.

*Muscipeta setosa*, Quoy et Gaim. Voy. de l'Astrol. i. p. 181, t. 4. f. 4 (1830).

*Rhipidura setosa*, G. R. Gray, Gen. B. i. p. 259, et Cat. B. Trop. Isl. p. 17.

*Rhipidura gularis*, Müller et Schl. Verh. Ethn. p. 185 (1839-44).

One skin of this species, being from Duke-of-York Island, is, no doubt, the true *R. setosa*, originally described from New Ireland; but I suspect it is also scarcely different from *R. gularis* of New Guinea, and that these two species will have ultimately to be united. Cf. Meyer, Sitz. Ak. Wien, lxxix. p. 503.

## 5. MONARCHA VERTICALIS, sp. nov. (Plate XIV. fig. 1.)

*Super ater: uropygio, primariorum tectricibus mediis et secundariorum omnibus albis: frontis, faciei, regionis ocularis, et gutturis totius plumis nigris, exstantibus, quasi squamosis, fascia verticali alba ex similibus plumis composita: abdomine et subalaribus albis: rostro et pedibus nigris: rictu setis rigidis munito: long. tota 6.0, alæ 3.3, caudæ 2.11.*

*Hab.* Duke-of-York Island (Oct. 1875).

*Obs.* Sp. *Monarchæ loricatæ*, Wall. (P. Z. S. 1863, p. 29, pl. vi.),

affinis, sed cauda nigra, uropygio et macula verticali albis dignoscenda.

## 6. MONARCHA CHRYSOMELAS.

*Muscicapa chrysomela*, Garn. Voy. de la Coq. Zool. i. p. 594, Atl. t. 18. f. 2.

*Monarcha chrysomela*, Sw. Class. B. ii. p. 257.

*Monarcha cordensis*, Cab. et Reich. Journ. f. Orn. 1876, p. 320 (?).

The locality for this species given in the text of the 'Voyage of the Coquille' is New Zealand; that given on the plate is New Ireland, which is, no doubt, correct.

The New-Guinea bird commonly assigned to this species is conspicuously different, having the greater part of the back black. I propose to call it *Monarcha melanonotus*<sup>1</sup>. On the other hand, the form from Kordo, which Meyer has recently named *M. kordensis* (Sitz. Ak. Wien, lxi. p. 252), comes near the typical *M. chrysomelas*, but has the black colour rather wider on the back, and extending further down on the throat. In *M. kordensis* also, the black colour narrowly surrounds the eye, which is not the case in *M. chrysomelas*.

*M. chrysomelas* is sometimes referred to the genus *Arses* of Lesson; but the first species in Lesson's list (Traité d'Orn. p. 387), which I suppose must be regarded as the type, is *Arses telescopthalma*, which certainly belongs to a different form. I may also remark that *Arses kaupi* of Australia being little more than a representative form of *A. telescopthalma*, the institution of a separate genus (*Ophryzone*) for the former, as has been proposed by Mr. Ramsay (P. Z. S. 1868, p. 383), is unnecessary, and that *Ophryzone*=*Arses*.

## 7. MONARCHA ALECTO.

*Drymophila alecto*, Temm. Pl. Col. 430. fig. 1 (♂).

*Monarcha alecto*, Meyer, Sitz. Ak. Wien, lxi. p. 504.

*Muscicapa chalybeocephalus*, Garn. Voy. de la Coq. Zool. i. p. 589, Atl. t. 15. f. 2 (♀).

*Monarcha chalybeocephalus*, Salvad. Ann. Mus. Genova, vii. p. 768.

*Piezorhynchus nitidus*, Gould, B. Austr. ii. pl. 88.

New Ireland is the original locality of Garnot's *Muscicapa chalybeocephalus*; and Mr. Brown sends us a pair of birds from Duke-of-York Island, collected in October 1875, the female of which quite agrees with Garnot's figure and description.

I have compared them with a series of *Piezorhynchus nitidus* from Cape York, collected by Mr. Cockerell, and now in Mr. Godman's collection, and can find no tangible differences.

I have also examined skins of the same bird from New Guinea, and am quite inclined to agree with Dr. Salvadori's views (*l. s. c.*) as to its range and synonyms. Dr. Meyer seems to have arrived at

<sup>1</sup> The form from Aru, *M. aruensis*, Saly. (Ann. Mus. Civ. Genoa, vi. p. 309), appears to have the back as black as the Papuan form.

nearly the same results, and I use the name *alecto*; which he adopts, for the reasons which he gives.

8. *ARTAMUS INSIGNIS*, sp. nov. (Plate XV.)

*Candidus: capite cum cervice undique, alis et cauda nigerrimis: remigum et rectricum pagina inferiore cineraceo; subalaribus albis: rostro cæruleo, pedibus fuscis: long. tota 7·7, alæ 5·8, caudæ 2·5.*

*Hab.* New Ireland (March 1876).

*Obs.* Diversus ab *A. monacho* capite alis et cauda nigris.

Here is a second instance of a repetition on the further side of New Guinea of a Celebesian type, *A. monachus* of Celebes being certainly the nearest known ally of this fine new species.

I have examined a specimen of *A. melaleucus* (Forst.) of New Caledonia in the British Museum, but find it quite distinct, having the upper back black. *A. maximus*, Meyer, of New Guinea, is of the same large size as the present bird, but has the whole back black.

9. *GRAUCALUS PAPUENSIS* (Gm.).

I refer a single skin without exact locality to the wide-ranging *Graucalus papuensis*, as understood by Salvadori (Ann. Mus. Gen. vii. p. 771) and Meyer (Sitz. Ak. Wien, lxix. p. 505).

10. *EDOLIOSOMA*, sp. inc. (♀).

A single skin, without exact locality, belongs to a female of one of the species of this genus—perhaps *E. muelleri*, Salvad. (= *plumbeum*, Müll. nec Wagler). A very nearly similar skin in the British Museum is marked *E. schisticeps* (G. R. Gray).

11. *LALAGE KARU*.

*Ceblepyris karu*, Less. Voy. Coq. Zool. p. 633, Atl. t. xii.

*Lalage karu*, Salvad. Ann. Mus. Gen. ix. p. 28.

A male of this species from Duke-of-York Island (Oct. 1875). It was originally established on specimens from New Ireland.

12. *DICRANOSTREPTUS MEGARHYNCHUS*.

*Edolius megarhynchus*, Quoy et Gaim. Voy. Astrol. Zool. i. p. 184, Atl. t. 6.

*Dicrurus megarhynchus*, Scl. P. Z. S. 1869, p. 119.

A skin of this fine species, from New Ireland, which is, I believe, its true *patria*. Quoy and Gaimard say Havre Dorey, New Guinea; but this is in all probability an error, as subsequent collectors have not obtained it in New Guinea.

The specimen in the British Museum is likewise from New Ireland, obtained in Carteret Harbour by Capt. Lambrick, R.N.

13. *DICRURUS LÆMO-STICTUS*, sp. nov.

*Nigerrimus: alis caudaque extus æneo nitentibus: capitis, cervicis undique et pectoris antici plumis nitente æneo maculatis, his*



*maculis in gutture et in pectore rotundis, distinctis: habitu generali D. carbonarii: long. tota 11·3, alæ 6, caudæ rectr. ext. 5·4, med. 4·6.*

*Hab.* New Britain (October 1875).

This Drongo, of which there is one skin in Mr. Brown's collection, obtained in New Britain in October 1875, belongs strictly to the same group as *D. carbonarius* of New Guinea and *D. bracteatus* of Australia. I should have been rather inclined to refer it to the former species; but as Mr. Sharpe, who has lately been engaged on this difficult family, points out to me, if *D. pectoralis*<sup>1</sup> of the Sula Islands is to be considered distinct, then this bird must also be allowed equal rank; for in it the round feather-spots on the breast are quite as large and well-marked as in *D. pectoralis*, and extend moreover over the throat.

This appears to be another case of the recurrence of Celebesian forms to the east of New Guinea.

14. *DICÆUM EXIMIUM*, sp. nov. (Plate XIV. fig. 2.)

*Supra saturate æneo-viride, pileo et capitis lateribus brunnescentibus: uropygio coccineo: subtus album, fascia pectorali angusta coccinea: lateribus et ventre medio fusciscenti-schistaceis, hypochondriis sicut dorso æneis: subalaribus albis: rostro et pedibus nigris: long. tota 3·3, alæ 2·0, caudæ 1·0.*

*Hab.* New-Ireland (March 1876).

This *Dicæum* is quite distinct from any species known to me. It is just possible that *D. æneum* of the 'Voyage au Pôle Sud' may be the female of it.

15. *NECTARINIA ASPASIA*.

*Cinnyris aspasia*, Less. Voy. Coq. Zool. i. p. 676, Atl. t. 30. fig. 4.

Three skins (♂, ♂ gr. et ♀) of this Sun-bird from Duke-of-York Island. Mr. Shelley, who is now monographing this beautiful group of birds, kindly sends me the subjoined remarks on them:—

"It is most interesting to find the true *C. aspasia* from Duke-of-York Island. Previously this bird was known to be a native of at least two thirds of the northern portion of New Guinea, and to extend westward to the islands of Popo and Mysol. The specimens from Popo island have a slightly more lilac tinge to the throat, but are not sufficiently distinct in my opinion for specific separation. Lesson's type of *C. aspasia* came from Havre Dorey; and specimens received thence agree in every respect with the adult male from Duke-of-York Island, which may be thus described. General plumage blue black; forehead, crown and nape metallic green; least and median series of wing-coverts, the scapulars, the lower half of the back, the upper tail-coverts, and the edges of the tail-feathers metallic green, faintly shaded with steel-blue, in that respect contrasting with the colour of the crown, which is rather golden than blue-green; beneath, chin and throat steel-blue, very faintly shaded with lilac.

<sup>1</sup> Wallace, P. Z. S. 1862, p. 342.

"This short description of the plumage is quite sufficient to show that the New-Ireland bird is truly *C. aspasia*; the rather more golden shade of the crown is certainly too slight to be of any importance. The steel-blue throat is so faintly shaded with lilac that it shows its affinities to be rather with the Dorey type than with the Popo bird.

"I shall now give the measurements, that they may be compared with two specimens, one from Dorey, and one from Mysol, in the British Museum.

	Length. in.	Culmen. in.	Wing. in.	Tail. in.	Tarsus. in.
New Ireland . . . . .	4.2	0.65	2.35	1.7	0.65
Dorey . . . . .	4.2	0.65	2.4	1.5	0.55
Mysol . . . . .	4.0	0.70	2.4	1.5	0.60

"The adult female from Duke-of-York Island has the breast bright sulphur-yellow, barely tinted with olive towards the front of the chest, and the under tail-coverts slightly paler. The throat is ashy tinted white. The upper part of the head and back of the neck ash-grey, the back and the edges of the wing-feathers olive-yellow, the black tail with the white tips to some of the outer feathers, are characters agreeing perfectly with the other females I have seen of this species. The paler and brighter underparts are apparently only due to the skin having been less exposed to the blackening influence of the London atmosphere.

"The young male, or, perhaps, more properly the male in moult resembles the female, excepting that the sides of the throat and a few of the middle feathers are steel-blue, and on the front of the chest there are a few black feathers, the first signs of the coming adult plumage.

"In Mr. Godman's collection there are two specimens of this bird, said to have been obtained at Cape York, Australia. This extension of the range so far south as Australia appeared somewhat improbable for a member of the '*Hermotimia*' group, considering how extremely limited is the range of all the other species of this group.

"This species, however, was known to be the most widely spread of the '*Hermotimia*' group and now that we find that it extends so far eastward as Duke-of-York Island, we have little reason to doubt its extending also southward to Cape York; and on examination of the two specimens in Mr. Godman's cabinet, it will be seen that the Cape-York specimens have the violet shade on the throat, indicative of the western form of this species as found at Popo and Mysol, but agree in the colouring of the crown with the true *C. aspasia* from Dorey, and not with the type specimen of *Hermotimia chlorocephala*, Salvadori, from the Aru Islands."

#### 16. NECTARINIA FRENATA.

*Nectarinia frenata*, Müll. Verh. Zool. p. 61, pl. 8. fig. 1.

*Nectarinia flavigastra*, Gould, P. Z. S. 1843, p. 104; Zool. Sulph. p. 43, pl. 24 (♀).

*Nectarinia australis*, Gould, B. Austr. Suppl. pl. 45.

Mr. Brown sends me from New Ireland an adult male and female of this species. This is very interesting; for the female of the New-Ireland bird was described and figured by Mr. Gould in 1844, under the title of *Nectarinia flavigastra*. There can be no doubt, Capt. Shelley tells me, of the identity of the New-Ireland bird with *N. frenata*, which has the following wide range—Celebes, Moluccas, New Guinea, New Ireland, islands of Torres Straits and North-eastern Australia. This bird will be figured in Capt. Shelley's 'Monograph of the Cinnyridæ,' part 3.

#### 17. PHILEMON COCKERELLI, sp. nov.

*Supra fuscus unicolor, pileo et capitis lateribus paulo obscurioribus: subtus dilutior, fusco-cinereus, gutture albicantiore et striis angustis plumarum scapas occupantibus instructo: fronte, loris, oculorum ambitu et mandibula inferiore usque ad aures denudatis: plumis auricularibus dorso concoloribus: rostri tuberculo nullo: rostro obscure corneo, pedibus albicanti-plumbeis: long. tota 13·0, alæ 6·0, caudæ 5·0, tarsi 1·7.*

*Hab.* New Britain (Feb. 1876).

*Obs.* Similis *P. moluccensi*, sed pileo obscuriore, dorso omnino concolori dignoscendus; a *P. fuscicapillo* colore corporis inferioris dilutiore diversus.

I have already pointed out (P. Z. S. 1869, p. 120) the necessity of using *Philemon* as the name of this genus.

#### 18. CALORNIS NITIDA.

*Calornis nitida*, G. R. Gray, P. Z. S. 1858, p. 181.

*Lamprotorornis metallicus*, Garn. Voy. de la Coq. Zool. i. p. 343.

*Calornis metallica*, Scl. P. Z. S. 1869, p. 120.

A pair of this species from Duke-of-York Island. The male agrees with Mr. Gray's type, collected during the voyage of the 'Sulphur' in New Ireland. Whether it be really separable from *C. metallica*, I must leave the monographer to decide.

#### 19. GRACULA KREFFTI.

*Gracula krefftii*, Scl. P. Z. S. 1869, p. 120, pl. ix.

*Gracula gnathoptila*, Cab. et Reich. Journ. f. Orn. 1876, p. 322.

My original example of this species having been received in spirit, the yellow colour of the belly was much faded, and the absence of the naked jaw-stripe (which occurs in *G. dumonti*) was not noted.

Both these characters are well developed in the present example from New Ireland; and I have no doubt that the New-Hanover bird, which has been recently termed *G. gnathoptila*, is of the same species.

#### 20. CORVUS, sp. inc.

A single skin of a Crow from New Britain, which Mr. Sharpe,



now engaged on the genus, is inclined to refer to *C. enca*<sup>1</sup>, but Prof. Salvadori to a smaller form of *C. orru*. If the former view be correct, this would be again a reappearance of a Celebesian form.

21. DENDROCHELIDON MYSTACEA.

*Cypselus mystaceus*, Less. Voy. Coq. Zool. i. p. 647, Atl. t. 22.

*Dendrochelidon mystaceus*, Gould, B. Asia, pt. xi.

One male specimen, without exact locality.

22. ALCEDO MOLUCCENSIS, Blyth; Sharpe, Kingf. p. 21, pl. 4.

*Alcedo ispida*, var. *moluccana*, Less. Voy. Coq. Zool. i. p. 343.

One skin, without exact locality; but Lesson obtained the species in New Ireland.

23. CEYX SOLITARIA, Temm.; Sharpe, Kingf. p. 115, pl. 38.

One skin, without exact locality.

24. HALCYON ALBICILLA (Dumont); Sharpe, Kingf. p. 197, pl. 73.

One skin, without exact locality.

25. HALCYON CHLORIS (Bodd.); Sharpe, Kingf. p. 229, pl. 87.

One skin, without exact locality.

26. HALCYON SANCTUS, Vig. et Horsf.; Sharpe, Kingf. p. 239 pl. 91.

One skin, from Duke-of-York Island, Oct. 1875.

27. TANYSIPTERA NIGRICEPS, sp. nov.

*Supra nigra, plaga interscapulari magna et uropygio albis: alis nigris extus cæruleis: caudæ rectricibus lateralibus nigris cæruleo marginatis, medianis elongatis albis in margine externo limbo cæruleo ornatis, duabus quoque proximis in margine interno albis: subtus omnino cinnamomea unicolor: rostro coccineo; pedibus fuscis: long. tota 11·5, alæ 3·6, caudæ rectr. med. 6·8, ext. 2·1.*

*Hab.* Duke of York Island (Oct. 1875).

*Obs.* Species distinctissima, *T. sylvicæ* proxima, sed pileo nigro insignis.

28. MEROPS ORNATUS, Lath.; Gould, B. Austr. ii. pl. 16.

A young bird of this Bee-eater from Duke-of-York Island. I have also a skin from New Britain, obtained from Mr. Krefft in 1869 along with the birds from the Solomon Islands.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Sharpe writes: "Your Crow is nearest to *C. enca*. There are three races of this form:—

"1. *C. enca*: wing 10·8–12·5, tarsus 1·9–2·1.

"2. *C. orru*: wing 12·5–13·1, tarsus 2·15–2·3.

"3. *C. violaceus*: wing 9·5–9·8, tarsus 1·65–1·75.

"Your bird measures 11·45, tarsus 1·9. It indicates a Celebesian affinity again."

## 29. EURYSTOMUS CRASSIROSTRIS, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1869, p. 121.

One skin, agreeing with the type from the Solomon Islands, is marked female, but has no exact locality indicated.

## 30. CENTROPUS ATERALBUS.

*Centropus ateralbus*, Less. Voy. Coq. Zool. i. p. 620, Atl. t. 34 ; Scl. P. Z. S. 1869, p. 122.

A skin of this Coucal is labelled "New Britain and New Ireland," the collector having, I suppose, found it in both these islands. It has the whole head white, except a few frontal feathers, and a white patch on each flank. But I am not disposed to regard the differences from Lesson's figure as more than individual.

## 31. CENTROPUS VIOLACEUS.

*Centropus violaceus*, Quoy & Gaim. Voy. de l'Astrol. Zool. i. p. 229, t. 19.

One skin of this fine species, from New Britain, marked "male." Quoy and Gaimard obtained it in New Ireland. The total length of the present specimen is about 25·0 in., wing 9·5, tail 14·0. The bill is black, the feet apparently whitish or pale yellow. Dr. Meyer's *Nesocentor violaceus*<sup>1</sup>, from Mysore, has been recently separated by Salvadori as *N. chalybeus* (Ann. Mus. Gen. vii. p. 915).

## 32. CACOMANTIS INSUPERATUS.

*Cuculus insuperatus*, Gould, P. Z. S. 1845, p. 19, et B. Austr. iv. pl. 87.

*Cuculus assimilis*, Gray, P. Z. S. 1858, p. 184 (?).

*Cacomantis insuperatus*, Gould, Hand-b. B. Austr. i. p. 619.

*Cuculus dumetorum*, Gould, P. Z. S. 1845, p. 19 (?).

One example from Duke-of-York Island, one from New Britain, and a third with locality not marked. These skins seem to agree sufficiently with Gould's figure.

I have compared them with three Australian skins in the collection of Mr. Godman, obtained from Cockerell; and I consider them referable to the same species. Two of Mr. Godman's skins are marked "*C. dumetorum*," and a third (younger) bird "*C. insuperatus*."

## 33. EUDYNAMIS PICATUS.

*Cuculus rufiventer*, Less. Voy. Coq. Zool. i. p. 622.

*Eudynamis rufiventer*, Walden, Ibis, 1869, p. 344.

*Eudynamis picatus*, Müll. Verh. Ethn. p. 176 ; Cab. et Heine, Mus. Hein. ii. p. 55.

A pair of the Black *Eudynamis*, which must, I suppose, be referred to this form of *E. orientalis*. They measure :—♂, total length 17 inches, wing 8·1, tail 8·8 ; ♀, total length 15·5 inches, wing 8, tail 8.

The exact locality is not given.

## 34. ECLECTUS POLYCHLORUS (Scop.).

From Duke-of-York Island Mr. Brown sends two skins of what,

<sup>1</sup> Mitth. zool. Mus. Dresden, pt. i. p. 16 (1875).

according to recent discoveries<sup>1</sup>, must, I suppose, be regarded as a pair of this species. But it is only right to say that Mr. Brown does not share in the view that *E. linnæi* is the female of *E. polychlorus*. He writes:—"By the by, I hear that many naturalists maintain that the Green Parrot (see specimens) is the adult male, and the red one the female or young bird of the same species. This is a gross error. Our attention was directed to this, and I am quite sure that they are two different birds. We shot the green ones, both male and female."

### 35. GEOFFROIUS CYANICEPS.

*Piones heteroclitus* ♀, Hombr. et Jacq. Voy. au P. S. Atl. t. 25 bis, fig. 2.

*Pionus cyaniceps*, Puch. ibid. Zool. iii. p. 105.

*Geoffroius heteroclitus*, Scl. P. Z. S. 1869, p. 122.

A skin from New Britain (Feb. 1876) agrees sufficiently with the two specimens from the Solomon Islands which I have referred to the female of this species on Dr. Finsch's authority. But I am now rather of opinion that Dr. Pucheran was probably correct in considering the so-called female of Hombron and Jacquinet a distinct species.

My specimens have no yellow at all on the cheeks; but the whole head is pale brown, with a cyaneous tinge.

### 36. LORICULUS TENER, sp. nov.

Fem. *Clare viridis fere unicolor, uropygio et caudæ tectricibus superioribus flavicantibus: macula gutturali rubra: remigibus et rectricibus nigris, extus dorso concoloribus, in pagina inferiore læte cæruleis: rectricum ipsis apicibus flavicantibus: rostro nigro: pedibus fuscis: long. tot. 3·8, alæ 2·7, caudæ 1·2.*

*Hab.* Duke-of-York Island (Nov. 1875).

Unfortunately there is only a single example of this diminutive *Loriculus* in the collection. It would seem to be nearest to *L. aurantiifrons* of Schlegel (Ned. Tijdschr. iv. p. 9), but has not the red rump, which, so far as I can tell from Schlegel's description, is present in both sexes of that species<sup>2</sup>.

Salvadori (Ann. Mus. Civ. vii. p. 912) and Meyer (Sitzungsb. Isis, 1875, p. 78) both record the occurrence of *L. aurantiifrons* in New Guinea, it having been originally described from Mysol. It is the only species of the genus yet known to be found there.

### 37. CACATUA OPHTHALMICA.

*Cacatua ducorpsi*, Scl. P. Z. S. 1862, p. 141, pl. xiv. (err.).

*Cacatua ophthalmica*, Scl. P. Z. S. 1864, p. 188.

*Pictolophus ophthalmicus*, Finsch, Papag. i. p. 282.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Salvadori, Ann. Mus. Genova, vii. p. 756.

<sup>2</sup> P.S. (March 26th).—Dr. Salvadori has now most kindly lent me a female of *L. aurantiifrons* from Andai, New Guinea, for comparison. It has the rump and upper tail-coverts scarlet instead of yellow, and is not generally of so bright a green as my bird, which is otherwise very similar in size and colour.—P. L. S.

A single skin of this Cockatoo has no exact locality affixed to it. It measures—whole length 17·5 inches, wing 11·5, tail 6·8.

38. *NASITERNA PUSIO*.

*Nasiterna pusio*, Scl. P. Z. S. 1865, p. 620, pl. xxxv.

The single skin of this species agrees well with the typical specimen, which I presented to the British Museum after describing it. The exact locality is not marked.

39. *LORIUS HYPÆNOCHROUS*.

*Lorius hypoinochrous*, Gray, List of Psitt. p. 49 (1859).

*Lorius hypænochrous*, Scl. P. Z. S. 1869, p. 123, et 1876, p. 460.

One skin, marked "New Britain and New Ireland," meaning, I suppose, that it occurs in both localities.

40. *TRICHOGLOSSUS MASSENÆ*, Bp.

Dr. Cabanis (Journ. f. Orn. 1876, p. 324) has lately separated an allied species from New Hanover as *T. flavicans*; but Mr. Brown's single skin appears to me to belong to the true *T. massenæ*. Its exact locality is not stated.

41. *TRICHOGLOSSUS SUBPLACENS*, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1876, p. 519.

*Psitteuteles subplacens*, Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen. ix. p. 10.

From Duke-of-York Island we have a pair of this recently described species. The female corresponds exactly with the same sex in *T. placens*, but, like the male, has the rump entirely green, like the back.

D'Albertis procured only a single male of this Parrot in S.E. New Guinea, opposite Yule Island.

42. *NINOX ODIOSA*, sp. nov.

*Supra murino-brunnea, plumis capitis et cervicis usque ad dorsum medium albo guttatis: superciliis in fronte conjunctis albis: alis extus maculis rotundis albis in plumarum marginibus externis ornatis; remigibus intus ad basin albis: subtus albus, pectore dorso concolori, albo guttato et transfasciato, ventre et hypochondriis striis paucis fuscis ornato: rostro flavo, pedibus fuscis: tarsi totis plumosis, digitis setosis: long. tota corp. 7·0, alæ 5·8.*

*Hab.* New Britain (Feb. 1876).

There is but one specimen of this Owl in the collection; and that is, unfortunately, imperfect, the tail being absent, and the wings having been partly cut. There is, however, sufficient evidence that it belongs to a species of *Ninox*, not hitherto recognized, allied to *N. punctulata*<sup>1</sup> of Celebes, but distinguished by the larger and more distinct spots above, and the flammulated belly.

43. *PANDION HALIAETUS*.

A skin of this universally distributed species.

<sup>1</sup> *Noctua punctulata*, Quoy et Gaim. Voy. Astr. Zool. i. p. 165.